

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199855

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MCCLOSKEY, ROBERT J.)

SUBJECT: DAILY WRAP-UP

EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY FROM JENKINS

FOLLOWING SENT TO SECRETARY AS DAILY REPORT:

1. US- AGRICULTURAL OPEC - THE STAFF ASSISTANT TO CONGRESSMAN WEAVER RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS BILL TO CONTROL FOREIGN GRAIN SALES (H.R. 9299) HAS INFORMED US THAT CHAIRMAN FOLEY HAS PROMISED TO HOLD A HEARING ON THE BILL THIS SESSION. THE BILL WOULD MAKE THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION THE SOLE EXPORTING AGENT FOR RAW GRAINS AND SOY BEANS. THE CCC WOULD PURCHASE GRAIN FOR EXPORT FROM THE DOMESTIC MARKET AND RESELL IT OVERSEAS. THE CCC WOULD SET THE EXPORT PRICE AND COULD MAKE LONG TERM OR BARTER DEALS. OR, FARMERS COULD SET THEIR OWN PRICES AND CO-SIGN THEIR GRAIN TO THE CCC TO SELL. TRANSACTIONS BY PRIVATE GRAIN
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COMPANIES COULD CONTINUE BUT SUCH SALES WOULD BE ENTIRELY

SUBJECT TO CCC APPROVAL. THE BILL WOULD NOT AFFECT P.L.
480. WEAVER HAS POINTED OUT THE TWO OTHER LARGE GRAIN

EXPORTERS, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA, HANDLE GRAIN EXPORTS
THROUGH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES BUT CAN'T FIX PRICES WITHOUT
THE U.S. GEORGE MEANEY HAS ASKED TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT
OF THE BILL.

THE ULTIMATE FATE OF THE BILL WON'T BE CLEAR UNTIL
AFTER THE HEARING BUT IT DOES HIT A SORE CONGRESSIONAL
NERVE ABOUT GRAIN EXPORTS.

2. JACKSON'S REQUEST FOR SALT HEARINGS - JACKSON'S
STAFF (FOSDICK AND PEARL) PHONED THIS AFTERNOON TO SAY
THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED THAT YOU HAVE DECIDED NOT TO
APPEAR BEFORE THE JACKSON SUBCOMMITTEE ON SALT I VIOLATIONS
AS A RESULT, THEY SAID, JACKSON WILL PUT OUT A PRESS
RELEASE TOMORROW CRITICIZING YOUR DECISION.

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